

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN STATE SUPERINTENDENT

January 29, 2015

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Local and Intermediate School Superintendents, Public School

Academy Directors, and Nonpublic School Administrators

FROM: Mike Flanagan, State Superintendent

SUBJECT: At-Risk Afterschool Snack/Supper Program

Today's students face difficult challenges on their path to educational success. Poor diet, lack of opportunities for movement, dysfunctional home situations, too much television, drugs, sexual behaviors, and stress are obstacles our students must overcome to achieve academic excellence.

Research has demonstrated the positive relationship between good nutrition and academic achievement. The Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) offers an At-Risk Afterschool Snack/Supper program that can improve the quality of nutrition for eligible students. The CACFP provides a cash reimbursement for snacks and suppers served to children while in an afterschool program. Reimbursement is for school age children who are 18 years of age or under at the beginning of the school year.

Many students go home to an empty cupboard and absent parents. Their food needs are great, but the resources are minimal or non-existent. The CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Snack/Supper program could be a stop-gap measure. Students who participate in the CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Snack/Supper program receive healthy snacks and/or balanced suppers.

To be eligible to participate in the CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Snack/Supper program, schools must meet the following criteria:

- Have at least 50% of its enrollment eligible for free and reduced-price meals
- Meet all state and local health and safety standards, if exempted from licensing
- Provide educational or enrichment activities in an organized, structured, and supervised environment

If interested, contact the CACFP staff at 517-373-7391 for further information. MDE looks forward to partnering with you to help children succeed.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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